NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

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N. E. FARMER.

For the New England Farmer.

INQUIRIES.

Joseph Breck,—Dear Sir—Having about four acres of very light sandy land, in a lot I have recently purchased,—two acres merely a sand bank, covered with a thin sandy soil in sward; all been used as a cow pasture for some forty years, and previous to that cultivated, and bore decent crops of corn, barley, &c.,—I propose turning it all over six inches deep, then use the subsoil plow, sowing Black Sea wheat on one to two acres, planting the balance part to Indian corn, and part to white bush beans. I am very desirous of getting the opinion of some of our chemical friends, say Mr Teschemacher, on the best and most economical mode of proceeding. I have a beach at hand, can procure fine slimy sand, at low water mark, on an extensive flat, rock-weed from the rocks by the shore, or eel grass, kelp, and other spring drift stuff. Would it be much benefit to put a coat of either of the latter on the grass before turned over, or a coat of the sand on after turning and mix well with the soil by harrowing. I do not intend to put any stable manure on any part of it this spring. I may use a little compost with a part of the corn. You are aware I have supplied myself with guano; should be disposed to procure any thing that you may recommend, to soak a part or all of the seed in. I shall feel much much obliged if our friend above named, and any other of your chemical friends and yourself, will give me some directions how to proceed in this case. As seed time is fast approaching, if possible, should like some remarks on this subject in your next week's paper.

Very respectfully your ob't serv't,

JOSIAH LOVETT, 2d.

Beverly, March 11, 1842.

☞We handed the above to Mr Teschemacher, who appended the following remarks:

Rock-weed, which contains phosphate of lime, is good as follows: put a layer of loam 8 inches thick, then a deep layer 1 or 1 1-2 foot rock-weed, then a small thin layer of lime, then stable dung, then another layer of loam, and so on, until you make a large heap: leave this one year to ferment, and mix it over previous to stirring on the land.

Guano would be excellent on the light sandy soil named by Mr L. Use it in hills, as I have directed, and always just previous to rain. For grass, guano is also excellent, but observe, never use other manure with guano.

Nitrate of soda is also excellent for grass; but I do not know whether it produces fine nutritious seed, as I know guano does.

I have stated that Clapp's pulverizer is a good machine to stir in guano or nitrate of soda, or any manure which is used in small quantities.

The slimy sand is probably too much impregnated with salt for general cultivation, although it might do for some. Would not a piece of your sandy soil near the beach, do well for asparagus? I have a notion that guano will make this grow very fine, and have engaged some growers of it to make the experiment this year. J. E. T.

For the New England Farmer.

"UNRULY MILKERS."

Mr Breck—I agree with the writer of the piece under the above caption, copied into your last paper, in all his positions save this: "*A heifer never kicks from principle.*" In this I do not concur. From my observation, I have been convinced—as I supposed all were—that among animals of all kinds, some were as *naturally* vicious or bad tempered as we know some men are. I mean to say that they are born with a good deal of the *bad*—a preponderancy of it—in their composition, and have a strong inclination to *show* it,—and hence it is harder to extirpate this vicious principle than if it were acquired otherwise. I have seen—(who has not?)—colts that shew their disposition to bite or kick, very early, and retained it ever after. (Perhaps proper training would have lessened it.) Heifers, for aught I know to the contrary, may be possessed by nature of a more gentle and amiable disposition than colts; but I believe that, nine cases in ten, they *do* "kick from principle," as much as the naturally dishonest man steals from principle.

However, as the discussion of this question cannot be productive of any great *profit* to your readers, it is not worth while to go farther into it. One thing relative to it I hold as certain: that is, whether a heifer or other animal "kicks from principle" or otherwise, it is no way to break them of the practice by beating or kicking them in turn,—and I am inclined to think that, in the case of cows, the remedy suggested by the writer of the article above alluded to, will prove as effective as any.

Gentle means are the best to correct bad habits in the young both of brute-kind and man-kind; and the truth of this is getting to be more generally admitted than it has been in time past. If animals still retain vicious propensities when old, I join with the writer alluded to, and say, *do n't thrash* them—"just keep philosophical, and try other means"—and if you can 't reform them "any how," then send them to—Brighton.

It is unworthy of man—*reasoning* man—to wreak his vengeance upon an animal, in a spirit of retaliation; and how *silly*—to use no harsher term—how silly must such an act appear to him, (if he has a sound head and a right heart,) when, after his passion has passed, he reflects that it was but a poor, helpless, thoughtless *brute* upon which he wreaked his *manly* vengeance! D.

Experiment.—A Scotch paper says that the Rev. Mr Ramsay, of Arbroath, commenced digging early potatoes on the 28th June; after removing the crop, he immediately replanted the stems; and although the first crop was considered good, the second from the stems, was superior—more numerous, larger, and of a better quality. The experiment is worthy of further trial.

For the N. E. Farmer.

SHEEP AND LAMBS.

Mr Editor—I noticed in the last Farmer, an account of the manner in which Mr Joseph Marshall, of Ipswich, keeps his sheep, and have no doubt but that it is the best way to make the most of both sheep and lambs. Farmers here generally keep their bucks from the sheep in the fall, so as to bring the lambs in May. This is bad policy. It takes very high keeping indeed to keep their flesh on through a very cold winter; and so keen is their hankering for the ground, that nothing will make them contented when the ground is bare, if they are confined, and they lose in flesh. If turned out, it is just as bad; they lose their appetite for food from the barn, and lose flesh the same. Perhaps sheep are weaker in April and May, than at any season of the year. My sheep began to lamb this year in January, and from that to the last of February, and notwithstanding the excessive cold, every lamb is alive, and now eat as much hay, according to their size, as the sheep. A very little attention will save every lamb, if the sheep are kept on Mr Marshall's plan, and their extra value for the butcher, is not the only advantage: they breed at a year old, which May lambs seldom do: they are perfectly hardy, and not like spring lambs, pinched and stunted by the next winter. Cold will never hurt sheep or lambs that come in the winter, if kept from storms and out of the force of cold winds.

It seems Mr Marshall means "next year" to have "a second crop" of lambs in August. Possibly he may do it in Massachusetts, but here it would be nothing but "book farming." I never knew but two or three instances of lambs coming in August, or the three following months, and never one where the sheep had raised a lamb in the spring. I hope he will let us know next fall how many he has of the "second crop."

Kennebec co., Me., March 8, 1844. B.

Correction.—The Farmers' Cabinet informs us that we were wrong in our inference that the farmer of quart-bottle churn celebrity, resided in Pennsylvania. We are glad that that State, renowned for thrifty husbandmen and good citizens, is not obnoxious to the reproach of having within her borders *such* farmers as the one described in the article we copied from the "Cabinet" a few weeks since. By the way, if our will could be gratified, the "Farmers' Cabinet" should be a monthly visitor at every farm-house in the Keystone State. No one of the agricultural periodicals of the country is so deserving the patronage of the farmers of that State, as the "Cabinet." Though unlike some other agricultural journals we could name, it does not claim to be the best in the country, we esteem it none the less highly for this, and express our sincere opinion when we say, that, in the value of its contents, it is second to none. We always open it with the expectation of finding something of interest, and are seldom disappointed.—Ed.

TENTH (AND LAST) AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT THE STATE HOUSE.

(Concluded.)

Subject—"Poultry."

Col. Thayer said he had omitted to speak about the diseases of the hen. He said the gapes was the worst disease among fowls: it originated from a small worm, about 1-4 of an inch long, which gets into the wind-pipe, and works its way down into the chest, choking up the wind-pipe. He has made use of a feather moistened with one drop of spirits of turpentine, and then applied to the inside of the windpipe. Sometimes it would effect a cure, but not always. If too much spirits of turpentine is used, it would destroy the fowl at once.

In regard to turkeys, they are very tender while young. They love to wander. If they can be kept on a farm where they can have a large range, they may be made profitable. He saw on Mr Webster's farm a hundred or more in one flock: they had a range upon an extensive marsh, and a chance to feed on grasshoppers, and were in fine condition and profitable, as they required no other feed than what they picked up, except in the fall.

He thought the Dorking breed of fowls more liable to the gapes than many other varieties.

Mr Knowles, of Eastham, said that a townsman of his was of opinion that a bushel of corn when fed to hens, was worth $1 25; but owing to railroads, the price of eggs would be so diminished as to make poultry keeping a poor business.

Mr Gardner, of Seekonk, said the subject was of much interest to him. He found that hens did not do so well when confined. He formerly kept them in a yard, with a plenty of corn and water; but they produced but few eggs. Since then he has increased his flock, and suffers them to run with his farm stock, and he has been very successful. They are benefited by ranging on a salt marsh. Turkeys, as has been remarked, are delicate, and difficult to raise. Last year he increased his stock, and had from 100 to 150 young ones: he fed them on curd, and kept them shut up a few weeks, and they did well; but after they were permitted to run at large and ramble in the grass in wet weather, they began to die, and but very few were saved. He wished to know of some good method to raise them.

Mr Cook made some remarks about turkies. They appeared to be very delicate at an early age, but much hardier when older. If young turkeys can pass through a few weeks of their first existence; they would most likely do well; but they require much care. Confinement was highly injurious to them—they seemed created to rove about. He spoke of the injurious effects of their being wet, which was apt to destroy them. They require a great variety of food. If fed on meal alone, they would die. At an early age they show a wonderful dexterity, in catching insects, and when allowed their liberty would grow fat on flies, grasshoppers, &c. In seasons when they swarm, they devour myriads of insects, and they afforded a very stimulating food.

Mr Cole said a friend in Bangor confined his hens, except for about an hour before sunset every day, and in the month of January had 1900 eggs from 150 hens.

Mr Dodge, Senator from Essex, said one necessary expedient in making hens lay in winter was in feeding them with meat. It was immaterial whether it was cooked or not; but it should be chopped up; in summer they could procure worms and other insects; it was not so important at that season to give meat to them. He thought salt food injurious. He considered it doubtful whether when salt was laying about the barn after salting hay, the hens would eat it; though it was the commonly received opinion that they would. He said it was a prevailing opinion that boiled peas when given to turkeys produced injurious effects, but he considered this fanciful. A turkey would swallow a grasshopper whole and it must be strange if it cannot digest a pea without injury or inconvenience.

He was not particular about keeping his hens warm, but let them take care of themselves, tho' he thought it desirable to have a good hen house.

His hens in the hot weather of June, were exceeding troubled with lice, and one third died off, a hen which had hatched out a brood of *chickens*, was found dead on her nest, literally destroyed by the lice.

Col. Thayer said it was necessary to have a hen house tight and warm, if eggs were expected in the winter. Lice in hen houses might be destroyed by burning a pot of charcoal in the house, closing it tight: white washing was sometimes resorted to but was not always efficacious.

The meeting was then adjourned to the first week in January next, when it is presumed the members of the Legislature, who may then represent the State, will come prepared to make the meetings still more instructive than they have been the present session. This is the first season we have had the privilege of attending these discussions—but from observations made by gentlemen who have been present a number of successive years, we infer that those of the past winter have been of a more interesting character, than of any other season. Much practical information has been elicited from experienced gentlemen, while the patience of the assembly has sometimes been tried by long prosy speeches by those who had apparently but little practical acquaintance with the subject under discussion. We do not consider an agricultural meeting of this character a suitable place for display of oratory, or that it adds much to the honor or consequence of the speaker, whoever he may be, (except in his own estimation,) to make a long harangue when he has nothing of consequence to say upon the subject. It is, however, interesting to hear the experience related by those who have all their life-time been engaged in agriculture; to be made acquainted with their success and their failures, their modes of operation, &c., and to have a free interchange of views upon all the topics which are brought successively before the meeting.

The gentlemen who have composed the meetings are very much indebted to the Hon. Josiah Quincy, jr., who has so ably presided at these meetings during the winter, having been absent only one evening, and that through necessity. When the discussions were animated, he was not disposed to take part in them; but if there appeared to be any thing like dullness approaching, he was sure to electrify the assembly by a flash of his wit, producing new life and vigor in the minds of all.

This mode of spending one evening in the week during the session of the Legislature, commends itself to all, especially to those interested in the great subject of agriculture, and we sincerely hope they will be resumed another year, and sustained in a manner which will prove beneficial to all who shall take part in the discussions, as well as to the thousands who read an account of them.

MASS. SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING AGRICULTURE.

Report of the Committee on the Premium to be awarded "for the best account, founded on experiment, of draining and reclaiming wet or meadow land.

There were this year four applications for this premium.

One of the applicants, who shows most fully the advantages which he has himself derived from draining and reclaiming his low lands, has neglected to give us such an account of his method as would assist others in following his example, and can consequently have no claim to a premium.

He appears to have fallen into an error, but too common among the applicants for premiums from this Society, that a reward is offered to him for the skill and industry he has displayed in improving his own property.

But he, as well as other applicants for this premium, have, in their increased crops, already reaped a rich reward for the labor and expense of draining and reclaiming their wet lands, as most fully appears by their own accounts.

Your committee considered that your chief object in offering this premium was, to induce some of those who had been most successful in draining and reclaiming wet lands, to give such an account of their operations as would enable members of your Society, and other farmers throughout the State, to follow their example profitably.

We are happy to say that two such accounts have been sent in to us.

Mr Benj. Poore, of Newburyport, has given a short but clear and distinct account of his method of draining lands. This same gentleman has also, in his account of his farm, which is this year offered for premium, given some further particulars of his success in draining.

Mr Samuel Goodrich, of Stockbridge, has given a more full and elaborate account of his method of draining, accompanied by a plan of a piece of five acres which he has drained.

Both of these gentlemen understand the advantage of covered drains, and the necessity of constructing drains where the upland terminates, and the meadow begins, deep enough to cut off the springs which are fed from the land above.

The committee consider that proper attention to these two points is of essential importance in draining.

Mr Goodrich throws his lands into beds after he has drained it. This was very necessary in the old method of reclaiming wet lands, but the committee, judging from their own experience, consider this practice useless and even pernicious after land has been drained in this thorough manner.

The committee recommend that the premium of fifty dollars be given to Mr Samuel Goodrich, of Stockbridge.

And as they consider the subject of the greatest importance to the agriculture of the State, they would likewise recommend that a gratuity of fifty dollars should be given to Mr Benj. Poore, of Newburyport, for his account of his method of draining his lands for the last 20 years.

Which report is respectful submitted.

FRANCIS C. LOWELL,
for the Committee.

Boston, Feb. 10, 1844.

Report on Root Crops.

The committee appointed to report on the premiums for root crops, have received an application from Mr Harvey Dodge, of Sutton, for the premium offered by your Society, for the best crop of ruta baga on half an acre. The committee think that he is entitled to it, and therefore recommend that the premium of ten dollars be given to Mr Dodge, of Sutton. Respectfully,

FRANCIS C. LOWELL,

Boston, Feb. 10, 1844. for the Committee.

From the American Agriculturist.

CULTURE OF CRANBERRIES.

Having been frequently addressed by gentlemen in your State, upon the subject of cultivating the cranberry, I beg leave through your paper to answer them, by replying to the following queries of one of my correspondents, just received.

1. Are the plants obtained from the berry? It is my opinion they are not, as I have repeatedly tried the experiment of endeavoring to grow them from the seed, and have known others to do the same, but without success.

2. Is manure necessary in the rows or hill? I should think it was not, for our greatest yield of cranberries in their wild state, is obtained from cold sour lands.

3. What time in the spring or fall should the roots be planted? I had always followed planting in the spring, till the fall of 1842. The vines planted that fall, yielded a few berries the succeeding autumn of 1843, but not so abundantly according to their time, as those planted in the spring. This, however, may be owing to the cold season we had; for the cranberry here, generally, was cut short last year.

4. The manner in which I commenced the culture of them, and success up to this date? In the spring of 1840, I planted half an acre with roots, put out in drills 18 inches apart, and 2 inches from each other in the drills. The following autumn, 1841, I gathered 12 quarts of fine cranberries. The next autumn I gathered 28 boxes, measuring one-half bushel each box, of which 6 boxes were sent to the American Institute, and were awarded a diploma. The fall of 1842, I gathered 81 boxes from the half acre, and again was awarded a diploma by the American Institute for such as I showed. The past two years have been very bad seasons for the cranberry, the crop having fell short of its usual yield greatly; but not so much so as the common wild cranberry. I have set out plants every year since 1840, taking the most thriving I could find, and have always had a good yield, when the season was reasonably favorable.

Any one wishing to obtain roots, will please address me, stating the number of square rods they wish planted, when I will give my prices for the same. SULLIVAN BATES.

Bellingham, Mass., Jan. 25, 1843.

Hurra for the Berkshires.—The Louisville Journal states that Mr T. B. Spillman, of Carroll co., Ky., recently slaughtered 9 Berkshire hogs, full blood, of one litter, 20 months old, weighing 3,429 lbs. They were kept on common fare. Mr Asahel Foote, of Berkshire co., Mass., slaughtered a Berkshire hog last January, 2 years and 8 months old, the dressed weight of which was 708 1-2 lbs. The 10th of June last, he was estimated to weigh only 300 lbs. The clear pork was 10 inches thick.

From the American Agriculturist.

DRAINING SWAMP LANDS.

A farmer upwards of 70 years of age, in this vicinity, having subscribed for an agricultural paper, and observing in it an article upon draining swamp lands, immediately bethought him of what could be done with about six acres near his own dwelling. It was a perfect frog-pond, thinly covered with tamerack, spruce and alders. He dug a ditch round the whole of it, with an outlet at one corner, and the winter following, when the swamp was frozen, went on and cut down all the wood and brush, carried off the wood, and heaped the limbs and brush for burning. The next summer, being a dry one, he burned off nearly everything combustible. The next year, what was previously swamp, became dry and compact enough to bear a heavy yoke of oxen. He then had an anchor made, with three sharp flukes or prongs, which would catch under the roots, and with this he dragged out nearly every stump and root on the six acres. These were heaped up into piles, and when dry, burned.

He now marked the wet spots, and the winter following, sledded from a gravelly hill joining the swamp, sufficient dirt to make those spots dry and hard. The next year, he harrowed the land and sowed with timothy, clover, and red-top, and, instead of an unsightly frog-pond, and rookery for blackbirds to harbor and destroy his corn, he has a beautiful meadow, yielding three tons of hay to the acre. He has given it a light top-dressing of manure to warm and sweeten it, and now wonders that generation after generation should have passed away without having made this simple improvement. J. THOMAS.

Worcester, Mass., Jan. 4, 1844.

From the same.

CULTURE OF POTATOES, &c.

At your request, I send you a specimen of the Pink-eye Kidney potato, which is a fair sample of my last year's crop, together with the mode of culture.

On the first of May, the ground, a sandy loam, on which turnips had been grown the previous year, was plowed very deep, harrowed, and furrowed three feet apart—the furrows filled with rotted manure, incorporated with oyster-shell lime and charcoal dust. The largest potatoes were then selected for seed, cut into single sets of one eye each, and planted on the manure, eight inches apart, and covered with the plow. After this the field was top-dressed with lime and charcoal dust, in equal quantities, at the rate of 200 bushels to the acre, and harrowed.

The potatoes were hoed and plowed twice during the season. On the 12th of October they were dug, and although the furrows were too far apart, and the potato a shy bearer, the produce was 432 bushels per acre, free from decay or disease. My object in liming was, to destroy any worm or insect that might be concealed in the soil.

Contiguous to the potatoes, I sowed a quarter of an acre with ruta baga seed in drills. On this crop I did not use lime or charcoal dust: the consequence was *the entire loss of the crop*, which was destroyed by worms. Adjoining, I sowed a quarter of an acre with Orange carrot seed, which were soaked in strong ley 12 hours, and sown in drills, previously filled with a composition formed of ashes, salt, muck, poudrette, lime and charcoal-dust, in nearly equal quantities, except salt, a small portion of which only was used. The quarter of an acre produced 190 bushels, and would, in my opinion, have yielded one-third more, had the blossoms been cut off. ROB'T L. PELL.

Pelham, Ulster co., Jan. 6, 1844.

HARROWING GRAIN.

We have often found great benefit in harrowing winter grain in the spring of the year, as soon as the ground is well settled, and dry, more especially wheat somewhat winter-killed. It stirs the earth, encourages tillering, and adds to the vigor of the growth of the plant. The harrow should be followed by the roller, so as to replace the roots of the plants which may be laid bare by the harrow, and crowd them into the earth. It is hardly necessary to add, that the harrow should be light, with short, fine teeth. Among the German population of this country, we have seen wooden-tooth harrows frequently made use of for this purpose.

We believe that barley, oats, and all spring crops of grain may be harrowed to advantage, whenever the surface of the ground becomes somewhat hard and encrusted, which all clay soils are liable to after a hard rain. Harrowing the hemp crop under such circumstances, we were informed in Kentucky, has been found highly beneficial.—*Amer. Agricult.*

Communicated.

Mr Editor—In Carey & Hart's edition of Johnson's Farmers' Encyclopedia, edited by Emerson, page 649, column 1st, it is s stated that "Some recent experiments of Saussure, go to prove that plants *do* assimilate *humus*, contrary to the views of Liebig, who regards it only as a medium by which nourishment is absorbed and subsequently given out." Now as this subject seems to be one of considerable practical agricultural and horticultural importance, if you or some of your learned and valuable correspondents will furnish a copy of those experiments through the columns of the N. E. Farmer, you will very much gratify and oblige

ONE OF YOUR CONSTANT READERS.

We should be glad to receive from any one, a copy of the experiments above alluded to.—ED.

Communicated.

Mr Editor—I noticed in your report of one of the agricultural meetings at the State House, that "Pickering's, or the conical brush," was recommended as the best caterpillar destroyer that can be used. Now, sir, I would say that a common *corn-cob* fastened to the end of a pole, is equal, if not better, than any "conical brush"—and as every farmer usually has cobs on hand, consequently thousands of dollars can be saved annually by the use of the cob-brush. E. HALE.

Rock Bottom, Mass.

If any farmer permits caterpillar nests to remain on his trees after this, he will deserve to be *cobbed*—a species of flaggellation which, though not recognized by the dictionaries, had a *striking* significancy among our playmates "long time ago."—ED.

In your spring purchases of animals, be guided not so much by the *cheapness* as by the *quality* of the animal. The *best* are the *cheapest*.

ARTIFICIAL GUANO.

To the Editor of the New England Farmer:

Dear Sir—I promised you an account of some of the researches which have been made in my laboratory during the last four years, concerning the chemical nature of guano and the best method of composing artificially a manure of the same kind. I am happy now to redeem this promise, having succeeded not only in preparing an artificial guano equal in agricultural value to that brought from the islands of the Pacific ocean, but also in combining substances with it which plants require, (as proved by analysis,) which do not exist in the natural guano.

The value of any artificial manure depends upon its adding to the soil certain substances that plants require, which do not exist in it, or occur in too minute proportions to subserve the wants of vegetable economy—or some may act by decomposing certain inert compounds which exist in the soil, giving rise to useful combinations, or by extricating gaseous matters available to plants.

Guano comes nearer to a universal compost than any other natural excremental manure, and is more concentrated than any kind of poudrette that has yet been made.

It seems very remarkable, then, that there should exist so many contradictory statements respecting its agricultural value—statements which only prove the want of science and skill on the part of those experimenters who have denounced it.

So far as regards its application, we may say that it is especially adapted to those varieties of soil which are deficient in saline ingredients, and to those having inert or insoluble vegetable matters. It is not required on rich mould, containing animal and vegetable manures, and where ground bones have been largely used—for those manures convey to the soil similar ingredients to those found in guano. Our light sandy loams will, without doubt, be found to be the best soils for its successful application.

It must be remembered that all concentrated manures require dilution, or must be largely mixed with soil, charcoal or peat, in order to prevent the too powerful action of the ammoniacal salts on the delicate rootlets of plants. This rule is applicable to all saline manures. Guano may also be applied in solution in water, as has been done at the Conservatory, by our scientific friend, Mr Teschemacher. In the large way, it may be thus sprinkled on the soil by the watering engine.

The first lot of guano which I received, was brought to Boston by Mr John H. Blake, the present superintendent of the Gas works. This scientific chemist had then just returned from an extensive journey through South America, from whence he brought a variety of useful substances, obtained in his explorations.

A sample of this guano was analyzed in my laboratory in 1839, by Mr Moses B. Williams, then my pupil. His attention was particularly directed to researches on the organic matters existing in it, which had been neglected by European chemists, and those matters were found to be the usual ingredients of the richest mould, viz: crenic, apocrenic, and humic acids, combined mostly with ammonia, and also a large proportion of that neutral compound called by Berzelius, extract of humus.

These organic matters I regard as very important, and consider them as convertible food of plants, undergoing changes of composition the moment they enter the sap-vessels and cells of vegetables, and forming by their reduction an important supply to their nourishing juices.

It was evident on comparing the fertilizing action of natural and European artificial guano, that there was wanting in the latter some important ingredients, and it ocurred to me that it would be easy to form, artificially, the organic compounds, and to introduce them into an artificial guano, made up entirely of chemical salts. This I did forthwith, and submitted the artificial guano thus made to the test of actual trial, in manuring potted plants. The results of the experiment were decidedly satisfactory, and certainly established the fact that the artificial guano was equal to, if not better than the natural. I also gave samples of the artificial guano to several agricultural friends, requesting them to try it against the natural kind. Mr Teschemacher's results were unfortunately interfered with by the fire at the Conservatory, but he informs me that so far as the experiment went, the artificial guano furnished by me, proved to be of double the value of the natural guano. I have not heard from the other gentlemen who agreed to try it.

According to the analysis of Voelckl, published in the *Bulletin Universelle de Geneve*, Nov. 17th, 1841, natural guano consists of—

Urate of ammonia,	9.
Oxalate of ammonia,	10.6
Oxalate of lime,	7.0
Phosphate of ammonia,	6.0
Phosphate of ammonia and magnesia,	2.6
Sulphate of potash,	5.5
Sulphate of soda,	3.8
Muriate of ammonia,	4.2
Phosphate of lime,	14.3
Clay and sand,	4.7
Undetermined organic matter, (1-8 of which is soluble in water,) and water with traces of soluble salts of iron,	32.3*
	100.

The following is the composition of my artificial guano, with an estimate of the cost of each ingredient, as stated by my friend, Mr A. A. Hayes, a scientific and manufacturing chemist. The prices are estimated for crude products, as they can be made in large quantities:—

		Cost per lb.	*Total.*
Bone-ash, or ground bones,	15 lbs.	½ ct.	7 cts.
Carbonate of ammonia,	10 ‘	6 cts.	60 ‘
Phosphate of soda,	10 ‘	4 cts.	40 ‘
Sulphate of magnesia,	6 ‘	3 cts.	18 ‘
Muriate of ammonia,	5 ‘	9 cts.	45 ‘
Sulphate of soda,	3 ‘	1 ct.	3 ‘
Sulphate of potash,	5 ‘	3 cts.	15 ‘
Nitrate of soda,	5 ‘	4 cts.	20 ‘
Nitrate of potash,	2 ‘	6 cts.	12 ‘
†Humate of potash,	20 ‘	3 cts.	60 ‘
‡Apocrenate of ammonia, &c.	10 ‘	4 cts.	40 ‘
Oxide of manganese,	5 ‘	2 cts.	10 ‘
Bog-iron ore in powder,	2 ‘	1 ct.	2 ‘
Fine silex from peat bog, q. s.			
	100		$3 32

†Sawdust and potash melted together in an iron pot.

‡Peat steeped in carbonate of ammonia, strained and evaporated to paste.

In my experiments, the bones were burnt until white, and then reduced to powder, and all the chemical substances were used in their pure state. This is unnecessary in ordinary practice, but was required in scientific researches to establish the principle. Any chemist who inspects the table of the above mixture will perceive how a series of double decompositions will take place, resulting in the formation of the best formula for an artificial manure. In some cases I have added sulphate of lime and sea-salt (chloride of sodium) to the above mixture, and in such case sulphate of ammonia and carbonates of lime and soda are produced.

In the cultivation of potatoes, a much larger proportion of sulphate of magnesia may be introduced with advantage. For clover, a very large addition of gypsum may be made, either by mixing it directly with the guano, or by spreading it on the soil, the latter being preferable, since it will absorb the escaping ammonia.

The apocrenate, crenate, and humate of ammonia made by the addition of carbonate of ammonia to swamp muck or peat, does not (in the large way) require to be dissolved and filtered. It will be sufficient to mix them in the state of a moist paste. No ammonia can escape from its combination with the peat or muck.

The refuse bone-black of sugar refineries may be made into a paste with sulphuric acid in excess, and then treated with a sufficiency of crude potash or soda to take up the phosphoric acid set free by the sulphuric acid. This mixture may be at once added to the other ingredients of the guano, leaving out the phosphate of soda and sulphate of potash and gypsum, for these are now formed.

The animal carbon will also be a substitute for the ammoniacal extract of peat, which may be omitted. Urine made into a paste with calcined gypsum, may be substituted for the carbonate and muriate of ammonia. It is indifferent whether we use nitrates of soda or potash. The common crude saltpetre will answer perfectly well, where it can be obtained cheaper than nitrate of soda. Common bog manganese answers for the oxide of manganese and bog iron.

It will be easy for any one familiar with chemistry, to make many varieties of the above combinations within the rules, but those who do not understand the science, will do well to follow the formula strictly, if they wish to test the value of the manure.

Natural guano, at the present time, is worth $50 per ton in England, and so many ships are now engaged in its transportation from the guano islands of the Pacific, that we may look forward to a time when the localities where it is now procured will be exhausted, and the coast of Chili and Peru will be reduced to comparative barrenness. It is therefore important that we should endeavor to form an artificial manure, equal if not superior in value to it. I am satisfied that we can, by operating on a large scale, make an artificial manure *more* valuable than guano, and susceptible of all those variations which our different soils and crops require.

We cannot expect old farmers to leave the plow in the furrow and go to school to learn chemistry, but we do think it of the utmost moment that they should see that their children who may hereafter be called to improve the soil, should be made acquainted with this science, which lays at the very foundation of the successful cultivation of the soil, and the adaptation of manures to the various tribes of useful plants. It is as absurd for the farmer to undervalue and neglect chemistry, as it would be for the navigator to despise and neglect astronomy

*This organic matter appears to have been overlooked by Vaquelin, Liebig, and other agricultural writers; yet it is evident that it forms an important part of the guano. —C. T. J.

The former is a guide to the most successful cultivation of the soil, while the latter directs the mariner across the deep with unerring precision.

Respectfully, your ob't serv't,

C. T. JACKSON.

Boston, March 4, 1844.

☞We are under great obligations to Dr. JACKSON for the above communication. If he has succeeded—(and we cannot doubt that he has, since he has tested his preparation himself)—in preparing an artificial substitute for guano, of even *more* value, and less expensive, he has rendered a service to the agricultural community of an importance not easy to estimate. His scientific, persevering, and laudable endeavors to effect this great object, entitle him to the thanks of the agricultural public,—and we trust that his discovery and suggestions pertaining to it, will be tested by very many of our agricultural and horticultural friends the present season, and that the results will be communicated to us for publication.

A cheap and equally efficacious substitute for guano once introduced among us, will, we hazard little in predicting, produce a new era in our agriculture. Intent alone on rendering a service to the agriculturists, Dr. J. secures no "patent right" for his invention, but leaves it free to all; and though it may not be expected that every farmer will undertake the preparation of the artificial guano for his own use, the demand for it will induce others to prepare it for him, who will be able to afford the article at a reasonable price. Let the merits of the artificial guano and its results be fairly brought before the public, and however great the demand for it may be, Yankee enterprise will soon render the supply equal to it.—ED.

For the N. E. Farmer.

CULTURE OF TURNIPS.

Mr Breck—Sir—I have seen several remarks in the Farmer lately, on the cultivation of turnips; and as they do not all agree with the methods adopted by us, I forward you our plan of operations. First, select a suitable piece of land, plow, cross-plow, and harrow well, so as to pulverize it thoroughly; then sow the seed far enough between the rows to allow the cultivator to work, for that saves much labor in the hoeing. We have a machine for sowing the turnip seed, that makes the drill, sows the seed, covers it up, and rolls it over. With this, a man can sow as fast as he can walk. The cost is very little, for a good smart carpenter can make one in a day. It is all made of wood, except the cylinder which holds the seed: that is made of tin: and it answers the purpose better than the patent machines which cost ten times as much, and have the extra quality of getting continually out of order. Now as our seed is in the ground, we will wait till it is about 4 inches high, and then thin it all out, so as to leave a plant about every 6 or 7 inches: if you leave more, the turnips will be small and not worth harvesting.

In gathering them, let two men begin with a row each, pull a turnip with each hand, strike them together, to shake off the dirt, and lay them down with the tops all one way, over the place where they were pulled. Then cut the tops off with a knife made in this manner: Split the end of an axe-handle and lash about a foot of the point of an old scythe in it, so as to leave the end projecting about six or eight inches. It wants to be just long enough to reach the ground without the operator's stooping. One man can cut the tops off in this way as fast as three can pull them. We then haul them in to the barn floor, upset the cart, and push them down through small traps into the cellar.

In feeding out to milch cows, we chop the roots in a plank trough with a spade sharpened for the purpose.

This is for raising turnips in the cheapest and most economical manner; and they cost but half as much as the potato, at the same amount of profit. However, a farmer should not calculate upon one crop alone, because he fancies it is the most profitable. No crop is the most profitable alone, but some of one and some of another. Rotation is the word for farmers. F. P. A.

Pushaw, Me., March 5, 1844.

☞We are glad to present the various modes of cultivation and different views of gentlemen through the Farmer, supposing that our readers have judgment sufficient to guide them, and that they will adopt the course best adapted to their soil, &c.

A machine for sowing turnips simply, can be made at small expense; but farmers generally wish to sow carrot, beet, and other seed, and it is desirable to have one machine for the whole. For this purpose, we have a Seed Sower (Willis's) which is very simple, and not easily deranged, and that can be afforded at a moderate price, within the means of most farmers.

We think turnips do best when sowed in drills, but sometimes it is necessary to sow broadcast among other crops. It is a great mistake to sow turnips in drills too near: the distance recommended by our correspondent is not too great. The turnip extends its roots to a great distance. More roots can be raised on an acre when in drills at 2 1-2 or 3 feet apart, than when only 15 or 18 inches, and they are taken care of with much less expense.—ED.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

A PROCLAMATION

For a day of Public Fasting, Humiliation and Prayer.

The observance of days of Public Fasting and Prayer has been sanctioned by our ancestors, from the earliest history of our Commonwealth.

Such a practice becomes dependent and sinful beings. Impressed with its fitness and importance, I do, with the advice and consent of the Council, appoint THURSDAY, the FOURTH DAY OF APRIL NEXT, to be observed by the good people of this Commonwealth, as a day of Fasting, Humiliation, and Prayer. I call upon all classes, and earnestly invite them, to abstain from their usual avocations, and from the indulgence in recreations and amusements, during the day. And I respectfully request the Ministers of the Gospel, and the people of the various religious denominations to which they belong, to meet in their several places of Public Worship, and sincerely devote themselves to the solemn and appropriate duties of such an occasion.

Let us with one accord humbly approach the Supreme Ruler and Judge of heaven and earth, and whilst, with contrition of soul, we acknowledge and confess our past sins and ingratitude, and implore their forgiveness, "through the merits of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ," devoutly supplicate His merciful regard for the future.

Let us pray to Him that he would have compassion upon our infirmities, and deal kindly with us, as He did with our fathers in days that are past; that we may be so guided by the Holy Spirit, that "taking heed to our ways, we may apply our hearts unto wisdom;" that he would give us peace, health, and preserve to us our precious institutions, and impart to us understanding, from time to time, to make such improvements as may be best for us; that He would give us success and prosperity in all the branches of industry and business, in which we are honestly engaged, upon the land and upon the sea; that wealth, and learning, and talents may be properly directed; and that labor may receive its just reward, and the poor, the widow, and the fatherless, be remembered and visited in mercy; that a love of justice, moderation and order may pervade the hearts of our citizens; that Christians of all denominations may possess in an eminent degree the spirit of the Divine Master whose name they bear, and exhibit its fruits in works of honesty, charity, brotherly kindness, and good will; that all the efforts which are making to extend the cause of human freedom, of virtue, and of temperance, to disseminate amongst the whole family of man the peaceful doctrines of the Gospel of the Son of God, may meet the approbation and receive the favor of our father in Heaven.

Let us invoke the blessing of God upon the people of all the States of this great Union, and pray that He would give them a spirit of Christian Patriotism and Forbearance, and inspire their hearts with a respect and reverence for the Constitution made by their fathers, and under which they have so long prospered, and so direct their ways, that their best interests, honor, and happiness, may be permanently promoted by their continuing Free and United States.

Given at the Council Chamber in Boston, this first day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fortyfour, and of the Independence of the United States the sixty-eighth. GEORGE N. BRIGGS.

By His Excellency the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council.

JOHN G. PALFREY, *Secretary.*

God save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts!

Hints for Spring.—The earlier after the frost is out of the ground that you transplant vines, or put out your cutlings, the better; for it is important that they start in their growth with the earliest vegetating power of the earth in spring.

Rose, snow-ball, lilac, and all other bushes of the flowering tribe, should be set out early as possible.

As soon as the plants in your strawberry beds push through the earth, the beds should receive a dressing. Clear out all the weeds, decayed leaves, and old runners: loosen the earth around the plants, and apply some rich mould about them, digging it in so as to prevent a loss from evaporation or washing.—*Selected.*

Astringent Mixture for Scours.—Suet cut fine and boiled in new milk, in the proportion of one quarter of a pound to a pint of milk. To this add boiled starch one pint; alum, in powder, one drachm. Give as a drench. Good both for horses and cattle.—*Practical Receipt Book.*

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, March 27, 1844.

ON THE RIGHT USE OF MANURES.

Mr Editor—After all the conflicting opinions about the depth to which manures should be buried, if covered at all; and after all the conflicting opinions about the *time when* manures should be buried, permit me to say that, according to my experience, the depth to which manures are covered, and the degree of rottenness which manures should attain before they are used, should be varied according to a number of different circumstances, as—

1st, The difference in the component parts of the manures.

2d, The difference in the kinds of soil and subsoil to which they are applied.

3d, The difference in the kinds of crops which it is designed should be benefited by the manure; and

4th, The difference in the time when it is designed that the manure should give forth its powers for the benefit of the crop.

First. There is a very considerable difference in the component parts of manures. Some are volatile, some are fixed. All volatile manures should either be composted, or else, if it is practicable, they should be covered as soon as they are spread, in order to prevent them from evaporating and flying into the atmosphere when used. But if the volatile parts of the manure are composted with peat, or other substances which are retentive of moisture; or if, according to the views of Liebig, the volatile parts are fixed by strong acids, or by the sulphate of lime, they will not then require so deep a covering as if they were not thus composted, or deprived of their volatility. Composted manures do not require to be plowed in as deep as those which are not composted. And where farmers cultivate damp soils and compost their stable and barn-yard manures with peat or swamp mud, we are assured that they sometimes succeed pretty well in the cultivation of grass, corn, wheat and rye, by leaving the composted manure on or near the surface of the soil.

Again: manures which are not volatile, but which are disposed to sink in the soil, such as lime, ashes, marl, clay, sand, &c., should be left on or near the surface of the ground. And those manures which naturally collect moisture, may be left nearer the surface than others.

Second. Manures should be differently applied on different kinds of soil and subsoil. Long manures plowed into a stiff soil, tend to loosen it, so as to admit more air and make it lighter. Manures should be covered deeper on a dry gravelly soil than they should on a damp one. On a soil which is decidedly wet, the soluble and volatile parts of the manure, would be likely to mix with the water, and to go off with it; while on a very dry and gravelly soil, there would be more danger of losing the volatile parts of the manure by rapid evaporation, unless the volatile parts of the manure were fixed, or carefully covered. Volatile manures should be composted with peat or swamp mud before being applied to dry gravelly soils.

Third. Manures require to be buried deep or otherwise, according to the shape of the roots of the plants which it is designed should be benefitted by them. For those plants which send down long tap roots, the manure should be mixed with the soil, not only on the surface, but to a considerable depth below it. A number of years ago, I took an exhausted spot of ground, with a good, healthy, but exhausted subsoil, and after plowing it deep, I gave it a good dressing of compost, which was left near the surface, and then I planted it with carrots. They came up and grew, and promised to make a very fine crop: the upper ends of the roots were large, but when taken from the ground, the roots proved to be very much shorter than the same kind of carrots usually were, when they grew in places where the soil was more deeply manured. But where crops are to be cultivated which send out their roots horizontally, as rye, wheat, corn, &c., and do not send them deep, the manure will produce more speedy effects, if it lies on or near the surface.

On a spot which I designed for corn, near my dwelling, I plowed in a liberal dressing of fish offal, and lest they should smell bad, I plowed them in, with deep furrows; then manured the ground with barn-yard and stable manure, and planted corn, and my crop was only about the rate of 40 bushels of corn to the acre, which was not more than I should have expected without the fish. The fish offal was too low to be fed upon much by the roots of the corn. The next year, however, I plowed the same spot over again, with other deep furrows; this brought the remains of the fish again near the surface, and where I then planted corn, it yielded a luxuriant crop. In some places the corn yielded as much as 15 ears to the hill.

Fourth. Long manures which are covered in the soil, decompose, and frequently give out their strength to promote the growth of corn just at the time when the corn is making seed, and needs it most. In this case a little well rotted manure in the hill, to give the corn an early start, proves beneficial. But long and coarse manures do not suit parsnips, beets and carrots, and according to my experience, where parsnips, beets and carrots are planted among coarse manures, instead of their growing smooth and handsome, their roots almost invariably grow prongy, and the crop is never large. Beets, carrots and parsnips require manure which is well rotted, and ready to give immediate nourishment to these crops.

Where volatile manures are used with a view of materially benefiting crops which are to grow a number of years after the manures are applied, the manures should be worked in deep. A garden which has been well manured and well dug, so as to work the manure in deep, retains a portion of its fertility for a number of years after the application of manure is suspended; while a soil manured with volatile manures, which are left on the surface, is soon exhausted.

A number of years ago, I buried a dead cat in a mowing field, to the depth of perhaps 12 to 18 inches. The first year, no increased fertility was observed about the spot, but for several years afterwards, the grass grew with increased luxuriance over the grave of the cat.

This encouraged me to make another experiment. I therefore took an exhausted piece of land, which had lain in corn hills and sweet ferns, and without manure, for very many years. Into this we then plowed white fish, with good deep furrows, at the rate of 25,000 to 30,000 to the acre, and then planted potatoes. The next year, we sowed it to oats and grass, and then mowed the ground for six successive seasons next following. During all these eight years the crops were improved, and during the first seven years they were very considerably improved by this one manuring. And these eight crops, after deducting all expenses for rent and for cultivation, (except the expense of removing the stones from the ground,) gave a net profit at the rate of about $100 per acre. This net gain was in consequence of applying the manure in such a manner as to need but a small proportional expense for the after cultivatien. For, in this course, there was no expense for the cultivation after the second crop. In the six years which we mowed the grass, there was no expense but the expense of harvesting. And to have ground so much like the garden of Eden as to bring forth rich crops spontaneously for even the limited period of six successive years, without any other expense but harvesting, is not only a great advantage, but to us it was very pleasing. Had all this manure been left on the surface of the ground, we think it would have destroyed the first crops in the course, and and we think the manure would have then evaporated so as not to have materially benefited the last of these crops. But to a *tenant*, who had a lease *for but one year*, it would probably have been more advantageous to have left the manure nearer the surface, and to have spread it out more extensively; yet even then we think he could not have realized any thing like the same amount of net profit by its use.

Now then it appears to me, Mr Editor, that so long as the questions about long manure and short manure—the degree of rottenness which manures should attain before they are plowed in—and the depth to which they should be covered—so long as these questions are stated in general terms, without reference to the different kinds of manures which are used—without reference to the different kinds of crops to be cultivated—and without reference to the differences of situation, circumstances, and soil on which they are grown—the debates on these subjects, (which have been going ever since I first became an agricultural reader,) may be uselessly continued, and a large amount of ink may yet be shed in the controversy, without coming at all nearer to a settlement of these mooted questions than at the commencement;—for, unless my experience is fallacious, the degree of rottenness which manures should acquire before being used—and the depth to which manures are plowed in, *may be varied*, and *ought* to be varied, according to the various kinds of manure which are used, the various situations and kinds of soil to which they are applied, the various kinds of crops intended to be benefited by the manures, the length of time before the manures are required to give forth their whole strength, and the various circumstances of the cultivators.

I remain, Mr Editor, very respectfully yours,
And the public's very humble serv't,
ASA M. HOLT.

East Haddam, Ct., March 15, 1844.

Note by the Editor.—When our correspondent says that his eight crops (on the piece of exhausted land manured with fish,) six of which crops were *grass*, yielded him a *net* profit of about $100 per acre, does he state what he intended to? The amount named as *net* profit per acre, (considering that six of the crops were *grass* alone,) seems to us an over-estimate—unless in our correspondent's vicinity, hay has a higher value or yields much more abundantly than with us. We think he must have erred (unintentionally) in the statement of the profit. Or do we misapprehend him?—does he mean that $100 was the total, not the yearly profit?

☞In the report of the Fruit Committee, in our last number, the blank in the award for "the best gooseberries," should have been filled by the name of E. E. Bradshaw—and the premium for "the next best do.," should have been to Otis Johnson instead of J. F. Allen. [The printers "followed copy," and are, therefore, not culpable in *this* case.]

☞The article of our valued correspondent at Warner, N. H., and the favor of "A Young Harvard Farmer," are necessarily deferred until next week—as also the continuation of Dana's Essay—and we withhold our own editorial to give place to the valuable communication of Mr Holt.

PAGINATION INCORRECT

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Gardenof the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, to the week ending March 24.

March 1844.		7,A.M.	12, M.	5,P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	18	36	41	40	N. W.
Tuesday,	19	19	27	29	N. W.
Wednesday,	20	33	45	43	S.
Thursday,	21	33	33	34	N. E.
Friday,	22	26	31	29	N.
Saturday,	23	22	33	30	N.
Sunday,	24	20	37	40	N. W.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, March 25, 1844.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At Market 270 Beef Cattle, 20 pairs Working Oxen, 200 Sheep, and 1200 Swine.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—Higher prices were obtained and we advance our quotations, viz. extra $5,25 a $5, 50. First quality $4,75 a $5,25; second quality $4,25 a $4,75; third quality $3.75 a 4,25.

Working Oxen.—Sales, 70, 78, 80 and $90.

Sheep.—From $2,75 to $4,00.

Swine.—Sales quick. Lots to peddle 5 for sows and 6 for barrows. At retail 6 for sows and 7 for barrows.

N. B. We noticed four extraordinary fine large and fat Cattle, fed by Col. Chapen, of Springfield, Mass., two of which were equally fat, and much superior in form and limb to the famous Rochester premium Cattle of 1843.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $2 37½ to 2 62 per bushel. Red Top 65 to 75 cents. Clover—Northern, 00 to 12c.—Southern, 10 a 12 c. Flax Seed, $2 00 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $3 25 per bushel.

GRAIN. The arrivals the past week have been short of expectation, and prices in consequence have sustained some further improvement.

Corn—Northern, new, bushel 52 to 53—Southern, round yellow, old, 00 a 00—Southern flat yellow, new, 52 a 53—do. do. white 00 a 48—do New Orleans, 00 a 00—Barley 00 a 00 —Rye, Northern, 72 a 75—do. Southern, 69 a 70 —Oats, Southern, 30 a 32—Northern do. 34 to 35—Beans, per bushel 1 00 a 1 62.—Shorts, per double bush. 30 a 35—Bran, 20 a 23.

FLOUR. The usual demand has prevailed during the week, and prices without much change. Holders of Southern are rather more firm, and for shipping qualities there is an increased demand.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $0 00 a 5 00—do. wharf, $9 00 a 4 87—do. free of garlic, $4 87 a 5 00—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $0 00 a 4 87—Fredericksburg, low l'd 4 mos. $0 00 a 5 00—Alexandria, wharf mountain, 0 00 a 0 00. —Georgetown, $5 00 a 5 50—Richmond Canal, $5 00 a 0 00 —do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, South side $0 00 a 0 00 —do. Country $4 87 a 5 37—Genesee, common, cash, $5 18 a 5 25— do fancy brands $5 37 a 5 50 — Ohio, via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $5 00 a 5 37. Rye, $3 62 a 0 00—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 87 a 3 00.

PROVISIONS. The business of the week for Pork has been at various prices, according to quality. In Beef there has been more doing than we had occasion to notice for some time back.

Beef—Mess 4 mo. new bbl. $6 87 a 7 00—Navy—$6 00 a 6 50.—No. 1, $5 87 a 6 00—do Prime $5 00 a 5 50—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $12 50 a 13 00—do Clear $11 00 a 12 00 do. Mess, 9 50 a 10 00—do Prime $7 50 a 8 00—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00 —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00—Butter, shipping, 12 a 14—do store, uninspected, 6 a 10—do dairy, 14 cts. a 17—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 6½ a 7 —do South and Western, 6¼ a 7 — Hams, Boston, 7 a 8 — Southern and Western, 6½ a 7—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal, 3 a 4½ —do new milk, 4½ a 5½.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. ad val. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts. per pound.

We have no change to notice in this article. Sales are made to supply the demand at prices which support our quotations.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 48 a 50 c.—American full blood do 43 a 45—Do 3-4 do 37 a 40—Do. 1-2 do 33 a 35—1-4 and common do 28 a 32 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 25— Do. unwashed, 10 a 15 — Bengasi do 6 a 13—Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 10 a 15—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 37 a 40—No. 1 do. do. do. 32 a 35—No. 2 do do do 25 a 30—No. 3 do do do 18 a 20.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

Nothing doing this week that requires notice 75 a 100 bales arrived from the country, which remain undisposed of; 6 1-2c. per lb. offered by a dealer for a parcel, and refused; quotations remain nominally the same.

1st sort Mass. 1843, lb. 7½ a 0 ; 2d do 6 a 00.

HAY, 14 to 16 per ton—Eastern Screwed $10 to 12.

EGGS, 12 à 14.

WINSHIP'S NURSERY.

Brighton near Boston,

Situated on the line of the Boston and Worcester Rail Road, 5 miles from the city.

The season for transplanting is at hand, and all those who wish to supply themselves with choice Fruit and ornamental Trees, can be furnished at short notice with the finest varieties by the proprietors of this celebrated nursery.

Fruit Trees, including all the varieties of Pears, Peaches, Plums, Nectarines, Cherries, &c. &c.

Catalogues may be obtained by applying at the Nursery.

Trees carefully packed to insure safety in long voyages.

Orders left at the New England Seed Store of J. Breck & Co. Nos. 51 & 52 North Market street, will be delivered the day following.

Letters containing orders, addressed to the subscribers,

J. & F. WINSHIP.

March 27, 1844.

CAMBRIDGEPORT NURSERY.

Columbia Street.

SAMUEL POND, NURSERYMAN,

CAMBRIDGEPORT, MASS.

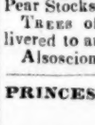
Has for sale a choice assortment of FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, ROOTS AND VINES.—Among them are the best varieties of Apple, Pear, Plum, Cherry, Peach, Apricot, Grape Vines, Asparagus, Rhubarb, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Pear Stocks, Apple Stocks, &c. &c. &c.

Trees of an extra size always on hand, and will be delivered to any part of the city, free of expense.

Alsoscions of Pears, Plums and Cherries.

PRINCES' LINNAEAN BOTANIC GARDEN AND NURSERIES,

Flushing, near New York.



WM. R. PRINCE & CO. will send to every post paid applicant, their new descriptive catalogues of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, including above 1000 varieties of the most splendid Roses, more than half of which are entirely new, and of surpassing beauty. The prices are much below what they have heretofore been offered in the United States; and there are 2500 varieties of tree and standard Roses, and 600 varieties of Chinese Everblooming, Tea, Bourbon, Noisette, and Perpetual Roses, comprising every new acquisition in these splendid classes. The following articles are offered in quantity at low rates: Quinces 2 1-2 to 6 feet; Lancashire Gooseberries—extra strong; Franconia, and red and white Antwerp Raspberries, Hawthorns for hedging; black Hamburg, White Sweetwater and all the Chasselas and Frontignan varieties; Grapes 2 and 3 years grown; Chinese Ailanthus; Uuropean Linden, Silverleaved Maple, Scotch Mountain Ash, Horse Chestnuts, Tulip Tree, Evergreen Cypress for cemeteries, and Firs and Pines of various kinds; 75 varieties of Chrysanthemums; Herbaceous and Tree Pæonies; Peaches 1 and 2 years growth, very low; Chinese Azaleas; Cape Jasmins, Camellias, Dahlias, an immense assortment; Pyrus Japonica, Aucuba, &c

☞Extra large Plums, Cherries, Peaches, Nectarines, Pears and Apples can be supplied of a number of kinds, at a small advance, and also of ornamental Trees

N. B. The personal attention of the proprietors is given to every order, and they *guarantee* the satisfaction of every purchaser.

WM. R. PRINCE & CO.

Flushing, March 18, 1844.

LONDON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S CATALOGUE OF FRUITS.

The subscribers have received a few dozen of these valuable Catalogues. Those who have ordered them are requested to call before they are all taken.

Feb. 28. JOS. BRECK & CO.

NITRATE OF SODA FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

BENJAMIN BANGS, No. 39 & 40, Lewis' Wharf, has for sale, a quantity of the above named article, which has been much approved of in England, and as far as used in this country has been found highly beneficial on grass land, trees and plants generally.

Boston, March 20, 1844. 3m

NONANTUM HILL.

NURSERY OF WILLIAM KENRICK.

Baldwin and other Apple Trees of fine sizes, 10,000 Peach Trees, also of kinds superior and of sizes fine; Pear, Plum, Cherry, Apricot, Nectarine Trees of kinds new or most highly esteemed.

This nursery, by late extensions, now covers 30 acres of ground. A large green house is now being added.

Franconia Raspberries, Grape Vines, Currants Gooseberries, Strawberries—of kinds most approved. The descriptive Catalogue for 1843 will be sent to all who apply.

Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, and Honeysuckles; yellow Harrison and other Roses; Tree and other splended Pœonies of different colors. Also, Myatt's Victoria and other new kinds of Rhubarb, double Dahlias, &c. &c.

All orders addressed to the subscriber will be promptly attended to, and Trees when so ordered will be securely packed in mats and moss for safe transport to all distant places, and delivered in the city by the wagon which goes hither daily, or shipped to order, or per railroad. Orders may be left with Joseph Breck & Co. 51 & 52 North Market street, John G. Locke, Esq., or Eliphalet Wheeler, Esq, Framingham. WILLIAM KENRICK.

March 6. eptM15 Nonantum Hill, Newton.

FRUIT TREES.

The subscribers are prepared to furnish every description of Fruit Trees, and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs and Plants. The autumn is a suitable time to transplant many Trees and Plants, and often times more convenient than in spring. We have as great a variety of Apples, Pears, Cherries, Plums, Peaches, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries, &c. as can be found in the country, and offer them at the lowest prices. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

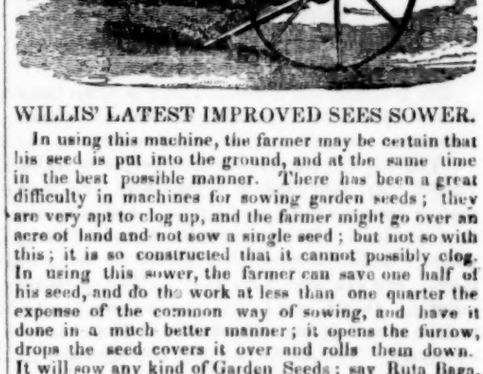
Boston, Oct. 11, 1843

FINE PICOTEE PINK SEED.

The subscribers have for sale a few packages of Pink Seed, saved from the varieties of double Pinks which were exhibited by them at the Horticultural Rooms, and for which they obtained premiums the last season. This is probably the finest seed of American growth ever offered for sale. Price 25 cents per package. Also extra fine English Picotee and Carnation seed at 12½ cents per package.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, March 6, 1844.



WILLIS' LATEST IMPROVED SEES SOWER.

In using this machine, the farmer may be certain that his seed is put into the ground, and at the same time in the best possible manner. There has been a great difficulty in machines for sowing garden seeds; they are very apt to clog up, and the farmer might go over an acre of land and not sow a single seed; but not so with this; it is so constructed that it cannot possibly clog. In using this sower, the farmer can save one half of his seed, and do the work at less than one quarter the expense of the common way of sowing, and have it done in a much better manner; it opens the furrow, drops the seed covers it over and rolls them down. It will sow any kind of Garden Seeds; say Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, Turnips, Carrots, Beets, Parsnips, Onions, &c. For sale at the New England Agricultura, Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 and 52 North Market street, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

MUCK MANUAL.

The Farmer's Muck Manual, by Dr. S. L. Dana—price 62 1-2 cents, for sale by JOS. BRECK & CO.

Dec. 11.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ANCIENT COIN.

We find in an old paper the following account of the first money coined in New England :

"One side of the coins bears the inscription, "MASATHVSETS *J N*" in a circle including a regular limb tree, intended to represent a pine ; on the other side, "NEW ENGLAND, A. N. D. O. enclosing "1652," directly over "XII." They passed originally for one shilling, and the "XII" was intended to represent its value in pence. Other pieces were coined at the same time with "VI." and "III." (sixpence and threepence on them.) This mint was established in Boston by order of the court in 1651. The coinage continued thirty years, though all bore the same date of 1651, when the first were struck. "No other colony," says Hutchinson, "ever presumed to coin metal into money."

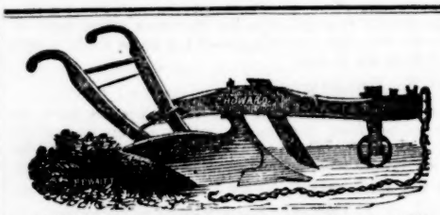
These coins did not obtain currency excepting as bullion any where but in New England. The Court made a contract with John Hull "to coin money of the just alloy of the then new sterling English money, and for all charges which should attend melting, refining and coining, he was to be allowed to take fifteen pence out of every twenty shillings." This proved a very advantageous contract to Mr Hull, and enabled him to accumulate a large fortune. He was offered a large sum of money to give up the contract, but he refused. Mr. Hull was grandson of Robert Hull, who came from England to Boston in 1635. He died Sept. 26, 1681, having been distinguished in military life, held the office of treasurer of the Colony in 1676, and an assistant from 1680 to his death. "He was, (says Mather,) the son of a poor woman, but dutiful to and tender of his mother, which Mr Wilson, his minister, observing, pronounced that God would bless him, and although he was then poor, yet he should raise a great estate." His only child, Hannah, married Feb. 28, 1676, to Samuel Sewall, the first of three individuals of the name, in successive generations, who have held the office of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. It was reported, that when this marriage took place, the bride was placed in one side of the scales, and her weight in these silver coins in the other, which was given her as her marriage portion. She is represented to have been a highly accomplished and beautiful woman, and *large* enough to balance down a very *heavy* fortune,—some say £30,000.

The Emperor and Rabbi.—There is often found in some of the brief tales of the Hebrew, a more impressive truth, than volumes can convey.

'You teach,' said the Emperor Trajan to Rabbi Joshua, 'that your God is every where, and boast that he resides among your nation. I should like to see him.' 'God's presence is indeed every where,' replied Joshua, 'but cannot be seen; no mortal eye can behold his glory.' The Emperor insisted.—'Well,' said Joshua, 'suppose we first try to look at one of his ambassadors?' The emperor consented. The Rabbi took him into the open air at noon day, and bid him look at the sun in its meridian splendor. 'I cannot,' said the Emperor, the light dazzles me.' 'Thou art unable,' said Joshua, 'to endure the light of one of his creatures, and canst thou expect to behold the resplendent glory of the Creator? Would not such a sight destroy you?'

EPIGRAM ON A MISER.

At rest beneath this churchyard stone,
Lies stingy Jemmy Wyett ;
He died one morning just at ten,
And saved a dinner by it.



HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside: this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough, sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

WILLIS'S LATEST IMPROVED VEGETABLE CUTTER.

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston, Willis's Latest Improved Vegetable Cutter. This machine surpasses all others for the purpose of Cutting Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, and other roots. The great objection to other machines, is their cutting the roots into slices, which makes it almost impossible for the cattle to get hold of them: this machine with a little alteration, cuts them into large or small pieces, of such shape as is most convenient for the cattle to eat. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels of roots per minute. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Nov. 1.

SCIONS FOR GRAFTING.

Those who wish to obtain Scions for grafting, are reminded that this month is the time to cut grafts. It is important that orders should be sent during the month to ensure execution, as it is impossible to keep a full assortment on hand. We have a supply of the following, cut from bearing trees, viz: *Apples*—Baldwin, Greening, Roxbury Russet, Porter, Hubbardston, Nonsuch, and other varieties.

Pears.- Bartlett, Seckle, Jargonelle, and other varieties can be cut if ordered.

Also, Plum and Cherry Scions.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, March 20, 1844.

FINE BONE MANURE.

The subscribers have on hand, Fifty Barrels of fine pulverised Bone Manure, mixed with the marrow of the bone. It was produced from a manufactory when the bone was sawed in a wet state. It must be a very valuable article.

Also, Fifty Barrels fine Bone Dust, in a dry state, principally saw dust, and the refuse of a manufactory.

March 20, 1844. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

HARRIS' TREATISE ON INSECTS.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., Harris' Treatise on Insects. Price $2. Also, the second edition of Dana's Muck Manual, price 62½ cts. Feb. 15.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,

NEW ENGLAND

Agricultural Warehouse

AND

SEED STORE.

51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. having received a full and general assortment of FIELD, GRASS, GARDEN and FLOWER SEEDS, worthy of cultivation, confidently recommend them as being pure and of the first qualities, unmixed with other varieties; they have no hesitation in saying that their collection of Seeds is the best, and of the greatest variety ever offered for sale at any establishment in the U. States, and would invite all to send in their orders as soon as possible, that they may supply themselves with the choicest varieties in good season for the Spring planting.

The following are a few of the most important kinds which they offer wholesale and retail, viz :

PEAS.

Cedo Nulli, Hills' Early, Early Dwarf, do. Charlton, do. Frame, do. Warwick, Improved Blue Imperial, Woodford's Dwarf Marrow, Bishop's Dwarf, for borders, Knights' Dwarf, Dwarf Marrowfats, Tall do.

BEANS.

Lima, Saba, Horticultural Pole, Dwarf China, do. Mohawk, do. Marrow, Red Cranberry Pole, White do. do. Kidney Pole, Dwarf Kidney, do. Case knife, do. Six Weeks, &c.

CABBAGES.

Large Late Drumhead, Late Sugar-loaf, Green Globe Savoy, Red Dutch, Low Dutch, Early York, Battersea, Vanack, Hope, Early Sugar-loaf, with a complete variety of other kinds.

Long Blood and Turnip Beets, French Sugar Beets, Mangel Wurtzel, Ruta Baga, Long Orange, Early Horn and White Field Carrots, Early and Late Cauliflowers, Broccolis of all sorts, Cucumbers, Melons, Squashes, sweet Marjorum, Sage, Summer Savory, Thyme, and Turnips, more than twenty fine varieties.

They have just received per Ship Minerva, a fine and choice lot of new FLOWER SEEDS, which together with an assortment of over four hundred kinds, comprise the most complete collection ever offered for sale.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES,

Shrubs, Grape Vines, Roses, Dahlias, Green-house Plants, Rhubarb and Asparagus Roots, and all Nursery productions furnished at one day's notice, and when requested, can be packed in mats and boxes, so as to be sent to Europe or any part of America.

Dealers supplied on the most liberal terms with Seeds of various sizes, containing a complete assortment, neatly put up in papers, labelled and sealed ready for retail, with printed directions on each package for its management and cultivation.

GRASS SEEDS,

At wholesale and retail, at the lowest market prices. Also, Kentucky Blue Grass, a first rate article for Lawns. Clover Seed, Red and White, Orchard Grass, Oat Grass, Fowl Meadow, Northern and Southern Red Top, Barley, Oats, Millet, Rhode Island Grass, Buckwheat, &c., &c., of the best quality and for sale low.

AGRICULTURAL BOOKS of all kinds, constantly on hand.

AGRICULTURAL AND GARDEN IMPLEMENTS of all kinds, among which are the following, viz :—1000 Howard's Patent Cast Iron Ploughs, 200 Common do. do, 200 Cultivators, 100 Greene's Straw Cutters, 50 Willis' do. do. 100 Common do. do, 100 Willis' Patent Corn Shellers, 50 Common do. do, 200 Willis' Seed Sowers, 50 do. Vegetable Cutters, 50 Common do. do., 200 Hand Corn Mills, 200 Grain Cradles, 100 Ox Yokes, 1500 Doz. Scythe Stones, 3000 do. Austin's Rifles, 100 doz. Cast Steel Shovels, 150 do. Common do. 100 do. Spades, 500 do. Grass Scythes, 300 do. Patent Snaiths, 200 do. Common do., 500 do. Hay Rakes, 200 do. Garden do., 200 do. Manure Forks, 300 do. Hay do. 500 Pair Trace Chains, 100 do, Truck do. 100 do. Draft do, 500 do. Tie up do, 50 doz. Halter do, 1000 yards Fence do, 25 Grind Stones on Rollers.

TIE UP CHAINS!—Just received by the "Oceanus" 300 Chains for tying up cattle. These chains, introduced by E. H. DERBY, Esq. of Salem, and Col. JAQUES, for the purpose of securing cattle to the stall, are found to be the safest and most convenient mode of fastening cows and oxen to the stanchion.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,

N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.

Feb. 21, 1844.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS.